Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Sub E7

Claims 1-6 (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A contour emphasizing circuit, comprising: ~~according to Claim 5,~~

a contour pick-up unit for sampling a contour component from an input video signal;

a level judging unit comprising a decoder for dividing the luminance level into n number of levels by discriminating the luminance level of the input video signal on the basis of m-bit data of upper luminance levels, with n being equal to 2m-1;

D' cont'd

a coefficient control unit for selectively changing a coefficient among n number of coefficients based on a judging signal from said level judging unit so that a high-value coefficient is selected for a high luminance level and a low-value coefficient is selected for a low luminance level, with the coefficient multiplied by the contour component sampled by means of said contour pick-up unit; and

an adder for adding the contour component output from the coefficient control unit to the input video signal for outputting a contour-emphasized video signal,

wherein ~~the level judging unit comprises a decoder for discriminating the luminance level of an input video signal on the basis of m bit data of upper luminance levels to divide the luminance level into n number (n = 2 m-1) of luminance levels, whose~~ maximum coefficient values range from 1 or less, 1/2 or more, ~~1/2~~ or less, 1/4 or more, 1/4 or less, 1/8 or more, ..., to 0 or more~~, to interpret whether the luminance~~

~~level of an input video signal corresponds to which of the n number of luminance levels~~.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim 7, wherein ~~the~~ said decoder of said level judging unit ~~comprises the decoder for interpreting whether~~ correlates the luminance level of the input video signal ~~corresponds~~ to ~~which~~ one of four luminance levels, and the coefficient control unit comprises four multipliers for multiplying the contour components sampled by ~~using the~~said contour pick-up unit by any of the coefficients 1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and 1 for outputting the product thereof, four AND gates respectively connected to ~~the~~ an output ~~sides~~ side of the four multipliers for using the signal interpreted by said decoder as a gate control signal, and an ~~the~~ OR gate connected to the output sides of the four AND gates.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim ~~5~~ 7, wherein ~~the~~ said contour pick-up unit comprises a horizontal contour component pick-up unit for sampling the contour component in a horizontal direction from the input video signal.

Claims 10-11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A contour emphasizing circuit, comprising:

a contour pick-up unit for sampling a contour component from an input luminance signal;

a decoder for determining a luminance level of the input luminance signal from among n number of luminance levels predetermined from upper bits of the input luminance signal;

a coefficient control unit comprising multipliers and gates for selectively changing n number of coefficients

according to a decoded signal generated by said decoder and utilized as a gate control signal, such that a high-value contour emphasizing coefficient is selected for a high luminance level and a low-value contour emphasizing coefficient is selected for a low luminance level, thereby producing a contour component output by multiplying said selected contour emphasizing coefficient with the contour component sampled by said contour pick-up unit; and

an adder for adding the contour component output from the coefficient control unit to the input luminance signal for outputting a contour-emphasized luminance signal, ~~according to Claim 11,~~ wherein the ~~decoder interprets whether the luminance level of an input video signal corresponds to which of four luminance levels, and the~~ coefficient control unit comprises ~~four~~ n number of multipliers for multiplying the sampled contour components ~~sampled by using the contour pick-up unit~~ by any one of n number of coefficients having a value in the range of $1/2^{n-1}$, $1/2^{n-2}$, $1/2^{n-3}$, ... to $1/2^{n-n}$, ~~1/8, 1/4, 1/2 and 1 for outputting the product thereof, four~~ along with n number of AND gates respectively connected to the output sides of the ~~four~~ n number of multipliers for using the signal interpreted by said decoder as the gate control signal, ~~the~~ along with an OR gate connected to the output sides of the ~~four~~ n number of AND gates.

Claims 13-14 (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The contour emphasizing circuit according to Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said contour pick-up unit comprises a horizontal contour component pick-up unit for sampling the contour component in a horizontal direction from the input luminance signal.